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MR. HILL, HIS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
AND THE CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT

HOMER S. CUMMINGS, in his brief in the Hill contest, asserts that Hill attempted to evade the provisions of the law, which forbade him to expend beyond a certain sum of money for his campaign, by setting up a committee, which then expended something like \$10,000.

Mr. Cummings says that the evasion was not successful. The brief charges Mr. Hill with knowledge of the device by which it was sought to get around the law.

The claim is definitely made "that Mr. Hill was perfectly aware of what was being done for him by the committee, and that it was done by his complete assent and often by his express direction."

Mr. Hill knew and approved of the plan for the committee. It derived its powers from the convention in which Hill was nominated.

If met for organization at his house, and its aims and purposes must necessarily have been formulated and understood in Mr. Hill's presence.

Mr. Hill was present at several meetings of the committee.

Mr. Hill personally sought a contribution, or other assistance from Senator McLean, and wrote the committee of his disappointment when he failed to get it, the letter being addressed to the chairman of the committee.

He actually received a check from Mr. Hepburn and turned it over to the treasurer of the committee.

He was directly informed by Mr. Dominick, of the committee, of the collection activities in Greenwich.

He knew of, authorized and approved the collection of the fund from the Danbury hat manufacturers, and was present at the meeting at which Messrs. Asche and Mallory were deputed to collect it.

He actually drafted the form of pledges which the Danbury manufacturers were induced to sign, and also the general appeal for funds, both of which concerned only Mr. Hill.

He knew of the contribution from the funds of the Strawberry association, and through his friend Wheeler of the committee practically promised to repay them by assisting in legislation for greater protection.

He knew of the activity of Messrs. Kip and Rhodes in making collections from the Salt's Textile group, for at the meeting of the committee held at Mr. Hill's house, in November, 1914, it was voted to thank Mr. Kip for his generous subscriptions.

He personally gave to Mr. James A. Farrell, of New York, president of the United States Steel Corporation a number of the appeals for funds, which he himself had written for the committee.

He knew that Mr. Wheeler, his personal political agent, transferred funds from Hill's personal campaign fund to the treasury of this committee, which he described as a "local campaign committee," A. C. Wheeler, treasurer, evidently not regarding it as having a general scope, or purpose.

The brief is equally conclusive in showing that Mr. Hill was in as close touch with the committee's mode of spending the money.

He knew the committee was printing and distributing the speech of Mr. Hilles, made at the convention nominating Mr. Hill.

He knew the committee was procuring an expensive canvass of the entire district, and personally checked the results of the canvass as it came to him, and not to any member of the committee. He considered the committee so far his own agent that he thought it proper to retain as personal property the actual canvasses themselves.

He referred requests for personal contributions to Mr. Wheeler, treasurer of the committee, showing that he used the committee as an instrument in his personal campaign.

He personally directed the location of posters bearing his own picture and paid for by the committee.

He personally ordered from the Herrick Foote Company 5,000 campaign buttons bearing his own likeness and the committee paid for them.

He conferred with, advised and directed the work of the committee in all the details enumerated above and from the proofs counsel is constrained to assert:

"That Mr. Hill was a party to all the campaign committee did, and is bound by its acts as completely as the members of the committee itself."

It is a sordid picture, drawn by this evidence, of this aged politician, going about by himself, or his agents, hat in hand, seeking alms of corporations, and promising legislation in return.

The Mr. Hill who attends political meetings which are opened with prayer, and where hymns are sung, is one Mr. Hill. The Mr. Hill who writes appeals for campaign cash and takes them to the president of the Steel Trust is another Mr. Hill.

The first Mr. Hill may be good enough to represent Fairfield county in Congress. The second Mr. Hill is intolerable. He should be unseated.

THE VICTORIOUS AUTOMOBILE

AFTER MANY years of waiting Bridgeport at last can claim participation in a real winter. Two or three seasons of weather like today's and the market for sleighs will come back, though the vehicle on runners has a different sort of competitor in the automobile than it had in the horse drawn wagon on wheels. The heavy snows of this winter have proved the superiority of the automobile over trolley cars and railroads at times when snow and sleet have been falling in quantities.

THE ATLANTIC HOTEL CABARET

THE RAID on the cabaret at the Atlantic hotel seems to have been conducted on the theory that the license for the bar did not cover the room in which the cabaret was carried on. Any legal procedure that gets rid of one of these places is better than nothing. But the way to handle the cabaret in Bridgeport is to be rid of it all together.

The cabaret is a place where wine, women and song are mingled in generous and dangerous proportions. It is the sort of thing Bridgeport once rid itself of, during the administration

of Thomas P. Taylor, twenty years ago. In those days the nuisance masqueraded as concert halls. But the cabaret as conducted in Bridgeport, is the same thing, with trimmings.

ARMED MERCHANTMEN AS WARSHIPS

AN ARMED merchantman ought to take the risks of war. Any armament is heavy enough to sink a submarine. The submarine is a factor in modern naval warfare, and a factor which will be important to the United States, if it should find itself in a fight. Merchantmen ought to go to sea without arms. They are then entitled to the privilege of non-combatants, and not otherwise.

ELIHU ROOT 71 TODAY

Elihu Root, the venerable New York statesman whose "boom" for the Republican presidential nomination has the support of many of the greatest men of his party, was born in Clinton, N. Y., 71 years ago today. In 1840, when he was 10 years old, he held the chair of mathematics at Hamilton College. While Mr. Root has many staunch friends and supporters, he also has a host of political enemies, by whom he is branded a reactionary, and who accuse him of subservience to Wall Street and the "big interests."

The rejection by the voters of New York of the new state constitution, and the making of which Mr. Root presided, was also viewed as an unfavorable omen for his presidential candidacy. Added to these objections, many Republicans who might otherwise support the famous lawyer and statesman hold that he is too old to act as the standard bearer of the Grand Old Party in a year as critical as this.

Mr. Root graduated from Hamilton College in 1864, and after a brief experience as a teacher at Rome Academy he took up the study of law at New York University. He was admitted to the New York bar in 1869, nearly half a century ago, and early attained prominence in the profession. He was Secretary of War during the period covered by the insurrection in the Philippines and the Boxer expedition, and Secretary of State in Roosevelt's cabinet from 1905 to 1909, when he entered the United States Senate. As Secretary of State he made a tour of South America and accomplished much toward overcoming the Latin-American distrust of the "Yankees."

Mr. Root has long been connected with important international movements, and his work for universal peace won for him the Nobel Peace Prize. He is an advocate of a greater army and navy for the United States. In his recent addresses he has suggested that as the conclusion of the present war it will be necessary to establish a new international code, which would have the support of all nations. A violation of international law must be considered as a crime against the world, which all nations are bound to assist in punishing. To be a real power, international law must be raised to such a plane that a violation of treaty, such as that of which Belgium was the victim, would call for the prompt and forceful intervention of all nations.

"Kultur" and Culture

An interesting definition of "Kultur" pointing out its differentiation from "culture," is supplied by Frank Jewett Mather, Jr. He says: "Kultur" means the organized efficiency of a nation in the broadest sense, and successful achievement in civil and military administration, industry, commerce, finance, and in a quite secondary way in scholarship, letters, and art. Kultur applies to a nation as a whole, implying an enlightened government to which the individual is strictly subordinated. Thus kultur is not an attribute of individuals—whereas particular interests, on the contrary, must often be sacrificed to it—but of nations. Culture, for which the nearest German equivalent is "bildung" is the opposite of all this. It is an attribute not of nations as a whole, but of accomplished individuals. It acquires national import only through the approval and admiration of these individuals by the rest of the world, and slightly in the culture they applaud. The aim of culture is the enlightened and humane individual conversant with the best values of the present. The open-mindedness and imagination implied in culture are potentially destructive to a highly organized kultur. A cultured leader is generally too much alive to the point of view of his rival to be a wholly convinced partisan. Hence, he lacks the intensity, drive, and narrowness of the kultur for competitive success. Hence, nations with cultured leaders have generally been beaten by those whose leaders had merely kultur. The Spartans and the Romans were kultur; the Athenians, who had merely very high culture. The Romans had kultur, and the Hellenistic world wore their kultur. Kultur galvanizes; culture liberates."

INVISIBLE GOVERNMENT.

(Hartford Times.) The Bridgeport correspondent of the Hartford Courant, in discussing the municipal problems of his city and the plans which have been adopted for their solution by the Republican administration says: "The handling of the entire situation has been in the hands of John T. King, and Mayor Wilson has had little to do with solving the problem." This statement, coming from a Republican source, cannot be said to be inspired by political hostility to Mayor Wilson or to Mr. King. If the statement is true it places Mayor Wilson in the position of having practically abdicated his official authority, an instance of invisible government in municipal affairs.

It is possible that a man, who is an aspirant for the governorship of the state and whose candidacy is financially backed in his home county is content to be the nominal head of his municipality while another solves its problems?

In case Mayor Wilson is promoted from the position of executive of the city of Bridgeport to that of chief executive of the state will Mr. King's relations to him in state affairs be the same as they are in the business of their municipality? The people of the state have an objection to the exercise of official authority by any one without the assumption of responsibility, and it is to be regretted that the objection is not shared by a majority of the electors of Bridgeport. It is the Tammany Hall system of power without responsibility and it is the very worst form of invisible government. It is but a few years since that W. Bourke Cockran, once the idol of Tammany, in condemning Mr. Croker for the exer-

cise of official power without assuming responsibility for his acts, pointed out, in his own eloquent way, the evils of a system that will allow a man to conduct official activities without holding him accountable for the results.

There is no suggestion that Mr. King has not given Mayor Wilson honest advice and that there is no objection on the part of anyone to the mayor's turning to Mr. King, as he would to any other citizen, for suggestions.

THE WOUNDS OF WAR

How many centuries must pass before the wounds of this war will be healed and the peoples involved return to their old friendly relations?

That such a time must come cannot be doubted, but it now seems that it must be very slow in its approach. That the contrary may be the case is suggested by the fact that today is the eighteenth anniversary of the battleship Maine in Havana harbor.

Only 18 years ago the United States was thrown into convulsions of rage against another nation. Millions of men were seized with a mad desire to go out and kill Spaniards. The very name of Spain became anathema to the Atlantic and the Pacific. Any person who had publicly expressed the opinion that a Spaniard was fit to associate with decent folk would have been in danger of a coat of tar and feathers. "Remember the Maine!" became a battle-cry which voiced a lust for vengeance.

That was 18 years ago. Today it would be difficult to find anywhere the feeling that the Atlantic and the Pacific person who nourishes any grudge against Spain because of the late unpleasantness. The war is practically forgotten except by those who actually participated in it, and the veterans of the conflict have no grievance against Spain or Spaniards. Dewey and Sampson—or was it Schley?—are remembered because of glorious deeds, and there may be those who regret that Colonel Roosevelt had something to do with the affair.

The animosity against Spain began to die out before the echoes of the last war had died away. The veterans of war aroused only pity and sympathy. Of course, the Americans could afford to be magnanimous because victorious. Doubtless the wound ranked longer in Spain, on this side of the Atlantic. Now, however, a subject of Uncle Sam can go anywhere in Spain without fear of being called a "pig," unless his manners justify such a characterization.

The South African war and the Russo-Japanese conflict are even more remarkable illustrations of the tendency of war's wounds to heal quickly. The Boers, who hated the Britishers most cordially 15 years ago, are now marching under the British banner, and only a few malcontents nurse the old grievances. The Japanese and the Russians are not only allies, but friends, with no little respect for each other.

Of course, this war has features far more horrible, and likely to make impressions much harder to eradicate, than the other conflicts referred to. It cannot be expected that the people of Belgium, Northern France, Poland and Serbia can soon forget much less forgive, the horrors they have witnessed.

It was not so long ago that Great Britain and France were the sworn enemies of Russia, and the allies of Turkey. For centuries the relations of Britain and France were those of the cat and the dog. Prussia and Austria were at war less than half a century ago. It was only yesterday that Great Britain and Russia were deadly rivals, ready to fly at each other's throats.

It would be difficult to convince any Teuton that he can ever again cherish any but feelings of bitterest enmity toward England. "Gott strafe England" is a sentiment which, he thinks, will be handed down to posterity to the end of time. The world, he thinks, is quite too small to contain both Germans and Englishmen. The student of history must smile at these sentiments. Hate is very wearisome to the hater. When peace comes at last to end the slaughter, all the nations will be too busy to cherish enmities. Hatred will cease "by attrition."

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

The friends of Miss Jane Hayes of 87 Liberty street, will be pleased to hear she is slightly improved from the severe fall she received on an icy sidewalk.

Mrs. John R. Woodhull, Mrs. Frederick A. Strong and Mrs. Charles H. Armstrong were chosen delegates from the Mary Silliman chapter, D. A. R., to the National Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution which will be held in Washington, D. C., in April at the monthly meeting of the local chapter yesterday afternoon. The alternates chosen included Mrs. R. J. MacKenzie, Mrs. Frank T. Staples, Mrs. Frank L. McGill, Mrs. J. A. Rusling, Mrs. Elizabeth Cable, Mrs. George W. Smith, Mrs. Irving Lewis and Mrs. Frederick H. Stevens.

The state nominating committee reports the following slate, which is to be voted upon at the state meeting of the D. A. R. to be held in Derby on March 15 and 16: For president, Mrs. John Laidlaw Buel, of Litchfield; vice president, Mrs. Charles Bissell; treasurer, Mrs. L. K. Curtis, of Southbury; as counselors, Mrs. Mary Merwin, of Milford; Mrs. William B. Glover, of Fairfield; Mrs. Jennie Harrington, of Middletown.

A program of entertainment concluded the afternoon.

REQUIEM MASS FOR WILLIAM DUNN

There will be a month's mind mass of requiem for William Dunn at St. Mary's church at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow. The late Mr. Dunn was a member of St. Mary's parish for 35 years.

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At the Trimming Section.

Fur Coats
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Hudson Seal Coats, plain or with Skunk bands.

Caracul and Marmot Coats, Fur Sets, Separate Muffs and Scarves of Fox, Beaver and Raccoon.

Marked very low

The "Amico"
Broiler Plate

Quite a new kind of Broiler which must be seen to be fairly appreciated. Everybody who enjoys a juicy steak or a grilled chop can have it at his own fireside.

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Special! These hold a goodly number of garments and will fold up small to tuck away when not in use. Were \$1.00, 50 cts to close out

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At 9c—Large Turkish Towels.
At 12½c—36-inch Pillow Case Tubing.
At 10c—Batteries for Vest Pocket Electric Lights.
At 89c—Our special steel wheel Roller Skates.
At 25c—Extra good Nail Hammer.
At 25c—Extra good Harmonicas.
At 5c—Bottle red, blue, violet, green or black Ink.
At 5c—Large package Cloths.
At 8c—Hair Insoles—keep the feet warm.
At 8c—Boot Socks.

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